



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2014 Issue 4 3 October 2014



Calendar for next week

Monday 6 October
Wednesday 8 October
Friday 10 October

2.00 U11 Tag Rugby Mixed at LYRFC
1.30 U11 Football Tournament at Thorpe House Langley Prep
Year 5 Assembly
1.30 U9 Football Tournament at Thorpe House Langley Prep

Dates for your diary

Saturday 18 October
Thursday 23 October
Friday 24 October
Monday 24 November

Open Morning with special timetable of lessons and activities
Holiday Club (bookable through the office)
Holiday Club (bookable through the office)
Year 3 visit to Sutton Hoo (8.45 departure) **(Addition to Calendar)**



Message from the Headmaster

It was a pleasure to welcome the new PTFA committee last week and we already have reason to be grateful for the support that they give us during the course of the school year. Entirely funded by the PTFA, a set of splendid iPad minis has already arrived and is being prepared for use around the school as I write. This technology will make a real contribution to the delivery of learning opportunities, both in ICT and across the curriculum as a whole. A huge thank you!

Mr McKinney

Harvest Festival Service



It was a glorious morning to celebrate the harvest and it was heartening to see the church full for our first service of the year. The choir was in good voice, although I know that Miss Sindall thinks that there is plenty of work to be done here and certainly no room for complacency on the choral front. Still, *We plough the fields and scatter* was a rousing start to the service.

Sonny read confidently from Psalm 104 and Rev Payne was glad of the help of two extra pairs of hands – such was the generosity of our families in giving produce for local folk in need.

The choir then sang *Lord of the Harvest*, a piece in which confidence and more secure dynamics grew as the singers remembered to watch their conductor carefully.

Rev. Payne soon had the children joining in with his sermon, with Harvey and Marli having to hold their colourful produce aloft the longest. His reminder of the meaning of Amen was no surprise to his regular listeners.

It was a thoughtful way to mark the fruitful season.

Mathematics takes school outdoors.



Outdoor learning provides an excellent opportunity for our children to deepen their understanding in different contexts and at all levels. Such experiences inspire passion, motivating our children to become successful learners, to become enterprising and confident. Every child in the school faced an outdoor mathematical learning challenge on Wednesday with a variety of tasks to span the age range.

Mathematical trails and cardboard box geometry created adventure and exploration throughout Years Three to Six. Individual class teacher led activities produced much excitement and enjoyment as young minds from Nursery, Year One and Year Two applied their understanding of number to a range of activities. A super morning that underlined the importance of working together with confidence, children were able to learn with and from each other. Well done everyone.

Miss Clifton

Working together in their Houses, Years One and Two took part in a whole morning of outdoor maths activities.

The first challenge was a Leaf Symmetry Challenge. Here the children had to work as a team to find the best symmetrical leaf.

The second challenge was The World's Longest Sum! The pupils worked together gathering natural materials to make an addition sum.

Finally, we were off doing some measuring madness - using rulers, metre sticks and trundle wheels! A lovely morning of learning was had by all!

Miss Kay and Ms Thomson



Nursery makes a splash and joins maths challenge.



Nursery children have been enjoying their new wet suits this week. These enable us to play in all weather conditions. We have used these for a range of activities - from splashing in puddles to going for a run in the rain and making dinosaur swamps!

The children love putting these on as soon as they come in in the morning. We can safely say they are a big hit!

Nursery also got involved in the whole school Outdoor Mathematics Morning on Wednesday, with various number challenges.



Nursery Star of the Week



The nursery star of the week award goes to Aston for good listening. Aston listened to the grown-ups all week. Well done!

Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher

Environmental Studies.



Year Four returned from the Green Britain Centre in Swaffham on Thursday, having spent a day tailor made for their up to the minute work on the environment, recycling and green energy in Humanities lessons.

Our investigation of environmental issues this half term was made a vivid reality by our sessions building model wind turbines, our ascent of the only wind turbine tower in Western Europe accessible to the public, a recycling competition and our impressive encounters with record

breaking 'alternative vehicles'. These included the fastest ever wind powered land vehicle Greenbird which was generally agreed to be 'awesome'. The weather continued to be kind, although the turbine blades were barely moving!

Special thanks to Mrs Dakin for driving us and Mrs Innis for accompanying the trip at such short notice.

Mr Butcher

Parachuting Polar Bears!



Year Two has been continuing their Forces science work, learning all about falling and that things fall because they are pulled towards the centre of the earth by a force called gravity. Do heavy things fall quicker? How does the shape of an object affect the way it falls?

What is resistance? We made Polo an umbrella parachute to ensure a slower, and safer landing. (Sorry about the first drop Polo, but you highlighted the point perfectly!)

Miss Kay



Scarecrow prepares for duty.



Reception children have been busy making the Henstead Scarecrow for the new vegetable garden, which *Harrod Horticultural* generously helped create with the splendid raised beds, wooden mangers and water butts.

We worked as a team to structure, stuff and dress the splendid gentleman, complete with sunflower buttonhole!

Scarecrow Competition

The poor chap is yet to be named so we need your help. To enter our competition, please hand in any scarecrow names (together with your name and form) to Miss Coxon or Mrs Scoggins before Wednesday. A name will be pulled from a hat at the end of next week during Assembly time. Get your thinking caps on!

Miss Coxon



School Council News.

Want to join the Henstead School Band?

Following a suggestion from Sonny, the School Council is delighted to announce the formation of a Henstead School Band.

The proposal was discussed thoroughly during Monday's weekly meeting and three representatives (Sonny, George and Ruby C) met with Miss Sindall to discuss the finer details.

The band is open to Years 4-6 with an initial maximum of 5 members. It is hoped that a Junior Band will form later in the year.

Band sessions will last 15 minutes and take place at 12:50 on both Wednesday and Friday.

For further details please speak to Sonny, George or Ruby C.

Miss Clifton



Mascot Winners



Polo Polar Bear

This week's mascot awards for the boy or girl in each year most demonstrating the school value of Confidence go to:

- R - Sharpy Crocodile - George
- Y1 - Pete Penguin - Darcey
- Y2 - Polo Polar Bear - Charlie
- Y3 - Pecker Penguin - Matthew
- Y4 - Oats Horse - Matthew
- Y5 - Terry Turtle - May
- Y6 - Hector Hare - Sonny



The latest organic produce from our school garden, which Harrod Horticultural generously helped to create.

Follow us on Twitter



Follow us on twitter

@OldSchoolHstead to keep up with news from the school on a daily basis. We post news, information, sports results and pictures as well as news of educational interest from other sources. If you don't already have a twitter account it is free to join on www.twitter.com.



One of the new iPad minis gifted by the PTFA this term.

Learning Trail



This week's Learning Trail - a Number Patterns Trail - was won by May and Oscar.

PTFA

News Extra

Next Meeting Monday 20 October at 7.30pm.

Bonfire Night & Fireworks Friday 7 November at 6.30pm.

Christmas Fayre Saturday 29 November 12.30

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Mondays 0830-0930

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